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VOL. XVIII. No. 2.

SPECIAL ON PLUM CULTURE.



Many Plums.

A leading plum grower of Geneva, N. Y., picked and marketed last season 400,000 eight-pound baskets of plums, says The Rural New Yorker.

Gueii (or Blue Magnum Bonum Plum).

Large, round, oval, dark purple; flesh firm, a little coarse, sub-acid; valuable for culinary purposes and profitable for market. First of Autumn. Origin, Lansingburgh, N. Y.

Fellenberg (Italian Prune).

Medium, oval, pointed and tapering at ends; surface small, distinct; dark purple, with dark blue bloom; stalk an inch long, scarcely sunk; flesh greenish yellow, juicy, sweet, of good quality, freestone. Last of August.

Shropshire Damson Plum.

This is the best of Damsons. These are small plums, produced in thick clusters or groups, almost hiding the branches from view. It is highly prized for canning and for preserving. The tree is not a rapid grower in the nurseries, is difficult to propagate, therefore trees are always in short supply, and cannot be sold as low as other plum trees.

Shipper's Pride Plum.

This large, round, purple plum is recommended for its certainty to produce a long crop of fruit, for its fine appearance and superior shipping qualities. The flesh is firm and of excellent quality; the tree is a strong, upright grower. In Northwestern New York, where it originated, it has never failed to produce a heavy crop since the original tree was large enough to bear. A plum that will produce large annual crops of large, handsome, good fruit, is indeed an acquisition.

Plums.

A correspondent of Popular Gardening tells how he saved his plum crop in the summer of 1890: "July and August were very dry and I began to have fears that I would lose my plums from this cause as the leaves began to drop and the plums to shrink. To counteract the effects of the drought I covered the ground under the trees so far as the limbs extended, with coarse manure to the depth of six or eight inches and then thoroughly soaked it with water; the watering was repeated after a few days, and I was surprised to see the trees were the plums swelled and nice so that, as a result, I harvested a magnificent crop of choice plums, which readily brought four dollars a bushel."

German Prune.

Sells for higher prices in market on account of high quality. A leading favorite. There are no easily grown fruit that gives greater or more certain profit than the German Prune. They were produced in this country many years ago, and for a time these furnished the only market for them. But the prune as a fruit for drying has entirely surpassed the plum, and though it is always dried whole, the seed is not troublesome to the enter. The Pacific Coast States have furnished most of the prunes for commerce. But it is a fruit that succeeds equally well in the East, with the advantage that if more grown near our large cities, there will be considerable demand for the fruit for eating when ripened, but not dried. —American Cultivator.

Plum and Black Knot.

I am providing a piece of ground calculating to set out 100 plum trees. I would like your advice on one or two points. My soil is clay but not a very stiff clay, with a northern slope just about sufficient for drainage without underdraining. Location is near enough to Lake Erie so that we are exempt from frost. We had no frost last spring after peaches or plums were in bloom. I wish to plant about four varieties, and thought of using Lombard, Bradshaw, Niagara and Shippers' Prune. Can you suggest a better selection? The probable market will not be far away. Since beginning my preparations I find that a neighbor has "black knot." Has had several trees entirely killed by it and some more badly effected. The trees are about 80 rods in a southeast direction from my place. Would my danger of getting it be great? And is it hard to control? We have a few trees here, but have seen no "black knot" yet. They are of two old varieties, don't know the names but the fruit rots badly. Is there any remedy for that? If you can

GREEN'S FRUIT GROWER

AND HOME COMPANION.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY, 1898.

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WORTH \$10 TO YOU.
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Monthly, 50 Cents a Year.

The Native Plum.

The development of our native plum from one species to a hundred and fifty is interestingly treated by Professor L. H. Bailey, of the Cornell Experiment Station. Professor Bailey classifies these hundred and fifty varieties into eight groups. The Americana, Hortulana, Hortulana Miner, Angustifolia, Marianna, Martina, Hybrids and unclassified varieties. Owing to the fact that most plums do not fertilize themselves, unnamed and unclassified hybrids are almost legion. But there are certain well defined varieties and these Professor Bailey has taken pains to name and describe.

He favors comparatively open planting as easier, neater and just as effective. As to the selection of stocks for grafting, the weight of authority is in favor of the Marianna, which is superior to the peach because of its greater hardiness and because it never sprouts from the roots. As to adaptation for different climates the Wild Goose is the best all round variety, owing to its hardiness and productiveness rather than to the quality of the fruit. In Wisconsin, Iowa and Nebraska only the Americana is hardy. The Chickasaws are best adapted to the Middle and Southern States. —Farm, Field and Stockman.

Top Grafting.

Many farmers who have good orchards suffer loss by allowing a few trees which bear worthless fruit to remain year after year. When this poor fruit is about to fall the owner resolves to change the tops next spring by grafting, but before the time comes around he has forgotten his resolution and the tree remains. This may be prevented by placing some permanent mark on them of "blazing" the spare branches.

In inserting the grafts the common mistake should be avoided of setting them out at some distance from the center, thus allowing much of the defective growth to remain after all. Select shoots never more than an inch or two in diameter and make short stumps of them for inserting the grafts. A round and compact head may thus be given. If a sufficient number of grafts are set the fruit may be changed in a very few years from the useless sorts to the best by this operation.—Home and Farm.

Bradshaw Plum.

A very large and fine early plum, dark violet red, juicy and good. Trees erect and vigorous; very productive, valuable for market. The tree is very hardy and vigorous. As regards productiveness it is unequalled by any plum we have ever fruited. To produce the finest fruit heavy thinning should be practiced. The quality is excellent and it is destined to become one of the most popular of all plums for canning, while its attractive color, good quality and shipping properties will cause it to be sought for as a market variety. It ripens ten days to two weeks later than Abundance. This plum resembles Niagara in size, color and general good qualities. It is a grand variety, and no collection is complete without it. It is better than the "American" and "Complexion" plums, and is home use on account of its fine quality, and for market for the reason that it is possessed of great beauty and large size and is enormously productive.

"Yes; provided they will work as intelligently in plum growing as they would in growing a corn crop. The growing of any fruit crop by many farmers, is made a secondary matter. Trees are planted and allowed to grow for themselves; hence, the large number of failures that are noticeable throughout the entire country. Were the corn field or potato patch neglected in a like manner, bankruptcy would soon follow. The trouble isn't half so much that the nurserymen sell 'bulk stock' as that the farmer gives full culture."

"But why plums rather than apples, pears or peaches?"

"Keep out of the crowd! The majority of those who have land, are more strongly inclined to the planting of the latter. Plums cannot be grown successfully over so large an area of territory as can the other fruits named; hence, in my opinion, the climate and soil are suitable, the possibilities for profitable returns from the investment are in favor of the plums."

"What gave plum-growing its 'boom'?"

"It has been well advertised. For the past 10 or 12 years, interest in this fruit has been growing all over the country. This has developed some valuable new varieties. The California growers have recently added this 'boom'." Undoubtedly, the choicest varieties of plums that have ever been introduced, have been brought out within a few years by Luther Burbank. So far as beauty, large size and luscious quality are concerned, they have never been equalled."

"But won't the business be overdone?"

"The markets are now frequently overstocked with varieties that are common; those that are more generally produced by careless growers, but those choice and tempting sorts that are required for our city fruit stands, and are most valued by our best families for preserving, are not yet produced in quantities equal to the demand, and will not be for a long time."

"What about varieties?"

"The following out of 50 or 60 sorts, after careful test, have proved to be the most satisfactory for me, because of their period of ripening and good quality for long-distance shipments: Field, the Damson, Burbank, Reine Claude, German Prune, Italian Prune and Grand Duke."

"Any special rules for cultivating the plum?"

"The plum orchard should annually be thoroughly cultivated, so as not to allow the growth of weeds to rob the soil of the nourishment that the tree needs, and to which it is entitled. The plum is a surface-rooting tree; hence, by thorough cultivation, I do not mean the deep plowing which sometimes is given young trees. My own plan is to keep the soil so constantly stirred that weeds shall have no chance for growth, and that in periods of protracted drought, such as we have had during the past summer, there shall be less evaporation of the moisture required for the health and vigor of the tree."

"In a few words, what is the history of your ideal tree from planting to picking? How do you care for it?"

"The annual cultivation last referred to, coupled with such liberal applications of plant food as is necessary to be required to produce a healthy growth, and insure the development of a vigorous foliage that will be carried through the season; the latter is an important essential in the production of quality in any fruit. Annual pruning is equally as important as the other features named, and should be performed only during the seasons of the year when the tree is in a dormant condition. The choicest peaches, apples or pears are produced only by such judicious thinning of the fruit as may be required at the proper season. My own experience does not recommend this remedy, but others praise it. I am trying it very thoroughly this season, and hope to settle the question beyond any possible doubt. The jarring never fails with me. In case of large trees I jar the limbs. To jar we must have a mallet that will not bruise the limbs, and must give a quick blow so as to produce a sudden jar. We must do this every early or very late in the day; then the insects fall to the sheet and remain quiet till caught. At mid-day they are more active and may take wing. For a mallet we can pad it with carpeting, or may take the rubber of clothes wringer and insert a handle which will not reach quite through. The handle should be cut quite through. The handle should be cut with a shoulder and made to fit so tight that it will remain secure with no fastening. We can strike with the end or side. It will usually be more convenient to strike with the former.—Prof. A. J. Cook, Rural New Yorker.

"How far apart should the trees be in the orchard?"

"As a rule, I think about 16 or 18 feet apart is a safe distance to be recommended; but while this is so, I would myself, on high-priced land, set them closer. However, when doing so, I would resort to such high feeding as, in my judgment, would be required to promote the best results."

"What insect pests and fungous diseases trouble you?"

"We rarely suffer from any insect pest except the curculio, and I have never found anything equal to the jarring process for disposing of this enemy of the plum grower. The process is very simple, and if followed assiduously for a few days after the fruit is formed, will virtually insure the crop."

"What is the best soil for plums?"

"Had you asked me this question 10 years

since, I would most assuredly have said a heavy clay loam; but within a few years past, I have seen some of the best plum orchards that have ever come to my notice grown upon a light, sandy loam; hence, previous theories in regard to this, have been upset."

"What is the best plant-food—stable manure or fertilizer?"

"A fair proportion of each, in my opinion, is best adapted to the needs of this fruit. I think that, in most stable manure, we are likely to get too much nitrogenous matter; hence, I am a believer in the use of such fertilizers as will give us potash and phosphoric acid. In my own experience, I have found wood ashes of more value than anything else I have ever used for plant food. By this, I mean in combination with a reasonable amount of stable manure."

"Tell us in a paragraph, the story of a successful plum tree."

"The successful plum tree is one of moderate growth in the nursery, on a soil that has not been over-stimulated for its production, has been planted with care, cultivated and grown intelligently by a man of sufficient liberality to bestow upon it the same liberal treatment that would be given to a thoroughbred animal; i. e., protected, cared for and fed with consideration up to such time as a bounteous crop of fruit may have matured ready for harvesting. This should be picked and handled carefully, in baskets, provided especially for this purpose, and then transferred to the packing house or barn, where it should be sorted and graded carefully as regards size and quality, all being so nicely done that the producer would feel proud to have his name appear upon the package on whatever market it might be shipped. The product thus handled, finding its way into the hands of an honest city commission man, of which, I believe, there are many in all of our cities, will furnish convincing proof of the fact that there are successful plum trees. In fact, plums and currants make a good fruit team; but it must be remembered that both require the best of care."

"What is the best way to care for plums?"

"The fact stated the other day by a contemporary in a letter to the editor, of the weekly, 'best of the daily papers,' of Princeton, is an interesting one. The letter cited the record of a fruit valley in California, where 75,000 residents enjoy a continuous fruit season. Yet not one, it is reported, has ever had a symptom of appendicitis, and the correspondent, as has been said, ascribes this immunity to daily use of eating 150 fruit on the vines, said to be beneficial, and it has besides a considerable nutritive excellence, making it a valuable family food. It is a good plan to prepare five or ten pounds at a time, saving time and having it always ready. Let the plums stand at least four hours in water enough to cover them; then put in a little cold water—just enough to keep from burning and stew very slowly, closely covered. When done, and they should be plump and tender at this stage, add two pounds of sugar to five pounds of fruit, and leave them on the stove perhaps fifteen minutes longer. Pack in jars, and serve freely.—New York Times.

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"Lombard Plum."

The Lombard is a great favorite for the following reasons: The tree seems to adapt itself to any locality; it is extremely hardy, producing good crops where many varieties will not grow; it is a strong growing tree—trees on our grounds five years of age being as large again as some varieties planted the same year; it is exceedingly productive. My experience has been that it outyields most other varieties, and yet all kinds of plums are more productive.

"It is not equal to some varieties in quality, and yet it is enjoyable eaten out of hand and desirable for canning and other domestic purposes. Those who are not familiar with the superior varieties would consider this delicious. The fruit usually hangs so thick on the limbs that we are compelled to thin out one-half. The more you thin it, the larger, brighter and better the remaining fruit will be. It is a handsome reddish plum, the flesh yellow, juicy and pleasant. Season—August. More than one of the leading fruit growers have planted the Lombard tree especially for a stock for top budding and grafting slow growing varieties, as it is one of the most vigorous growers, and gives great satisfaction for this purpose. It is an excellent variety, and should be planted in all gardens and orchards. It can be had for a long time after the others have been harvested.

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The Abundance Japan Plum.

The Abundance is large, showy and beautiful. Amber, turning to a rich, bright, cherry color, with a decided white bloom, and highly perfumed. Flesh light yellow, exceedingly juicy and tender, and of delicious sweetness impossible to describe. Stone small and parts readily from flesh. For canning it is also excellent. Its season is early in August in this State, adding to its special value. The editor of The Rural New Yorker writes: "From one little Abundance tree we picked 10 pecks of fruit. The quality is excellent. When fully ripe they are full of juice. The flesh is tender and there is mingled with the plum a peach flavor that is refreshing and agreeable." That the Abundance proves to be all that is claimed for it, seems now a settled fact. It is to us a blessing and a revelation—a blessing that we may enjoy plums of our own raising, and a revelation in that we have never before been able to raise plums because of the curculio. August 4, 1895, the Rural New Yorker said: "The Abundance Japan plum tree on our grounds is a sight to behold. The branches are wreaths of fruit, and as the tree itself, are held up by props and ropes. Here we have Abundance loaded with beautiful fruit, while not a precaution has been taken to destroy the curculio. Blessed be the Abundance! It is well named."

"Tell us in a paragraph, the story of a successful plum tree."

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remedies which have no equal in the whole realm of
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tonic to every portion and organ of the body.

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made at once.No C. O. D. scheme, nor deception; no ex-
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Best Whitewood,
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Send for New Catalogue, FREE.
Peach and Grape Baskets.
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Any material the same in the
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Price list free. Address.BERLIN FRUIT BOX CO.,
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Fence that "Stands Up." Canoe fence.Get the best wire fence
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tells all about the best
Farm Fence made. Agents
Wanted. Wire Fence Mfg. Co.,
Box 10, Ridgewood, Indiana.

Also Steel Fence and Chain Link.

Green's Fruit Grower

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Devoted to Orchard, Garden, Poultry and
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J. CLINTON PEET, Business Manager.
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publishers of Green's Fruit Grower to a-
tention fully \$1,000 per year.

Business from persons whose reliability might
be questioned. We believe that all the ad-
vertisements in this paper are from reliable
parties, but if at any time we will esteem it a favor if
they to otherwise we will esteem it a favor if
they will advise us. We will at any time
give our personal attention to any complaints
which we receive.

**Entered at Rochester Post Office as second class mail
matter.**

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEB., 1898.

**The circulation of GREEN'S FRUIT GROWER
is larger than any other horticultural
paper published in America.**

EDITORIAL.

One Cent Stamps Wanted.

We can use one cent postage stamps in
payment for subscriptions to Green's Fruit
Grower. Do not send two cent stamps, or
any other size than one cent, unless abso-
lutely necessary.

Our Special on Plum Culture.

We have received several requests from
our readers that we repeat more frequently
our plan of giving a page or more of each
issue to special lines of fruit. We have in
the past devoted several pages to
different fruits, and that feature has
seemed to please our subscribers. They
say they can file these issues away, and
find them valuable for reference. In this
issue we devote a little over one page to
Plum Culture. The plum is worthy of all
the space we can devote under that head.
It is a great food product. The quantity
of dried prunes consumed throughout the
world is something marvelous, and the
quantity of plums eaten fresh, canned, or
preserved is equally as great. Plums are
nourishing and healthful, being grown and
produced in great abundance.

We shall follow this special issue on
Plum Culture with special issues on the
Cherry, Pear, Quince, Currant, Straw-
berry and other fruits, at seasons when
they would seem to be most appropriate.
In devoting large space to this special in-
terest, we shall not omit our regular de-
partments. Our readers will find the
Health Department, Poultry Department,
the Woman's Page, and other interests
looked after with the same care as hereto-
fore, but perhaps on different pages than
previously.

More About The Erie Canal.

In the last issue of Green's Fruit Grower
we called attention to the fact that nine
million dollars had been voted by the
farmers and others of New York State for the
purpose of deepening the Erie Canal, and
that very likely twenty million dollars more
would be required before the job was fin-
ished.

My prophecy has come true, since it has
recently been found that the nine million
dollars will go but a small way toward
doing the work proposed. The scheme
really is to build a new canal. It can
amount to very little less. Locks, bridges,
squadrons, etc., are the most expensive
features of this canal. These will have to
be entirely rebuilt, also the walls which
support the banks of the canal. The canal
will also have to be deepened, which will
necessitate blasting out solid rock in many
instances. A railway has been laid in the
center of the Erie Canal at Rochester to
aid in excavating and removing soil and
rock at a distance. At Rochester there
is an aqueduct which carries the water
of the canal to the Genesee River. It will
require a large sum of money to
rebuild this aqueduct. Then consider the
expense of rebuilding all of the locks, and
enlarging them. Think of the work at
Lockport where there is a series of from
12 to twenty locks located closely together.
It would seem now that the canal may be
like our State Capitol—an elephant of ex-
pense and uncertainty. We recommend
New York State farmers not to vote an-
other dollar for repairs or improvements
for the Erie Canal, since there is no more
of a benefit to the New York State
farmers than to the farmers of other States,
such as Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, Dakota,
etc., all of which send their grain, more or less,
through this channel. If the United States
Government does not see fit to improve the
Erie Canal let it go down.

Latest about Erie Canal Im-
position.

The first editorial on this subject in
Green's Fruit Grower for January was
written in it was suggested by the press
that large sums of money should be spent
on the expense of improving the canal. Green's Fruit Grower appears to have been
the first journal which intimated that the
expense could not be less than twenty million
dollars. Since our editorial was written
comes the announcement from the au-
thorities that seven million dollars more
will be needed to complete the work—it
may need several more millions than the
last estimate.

The editorial in Green's Fruit Grower
was published by the leading political journal
and it may have reached the eye of

Protect Peach Buds in Winter.

James A. Roberts, who is the controlling
spirit in the Canal Board. Mr. Roberts
now comes out with a letter, asking that
the contracts already let for improving the
canal be withdrawn, and that no further
expenditure be made until the people vote
as to whether they will stand sixteen,
twenty or more million dollars for improving
the canal. Since in a private document
a contractor does not let it be known that
the work of improving would cost twice what
the original estimate was, it would be
more than fair that the private party
should be consulted before any portions of
the sum was invested. Mr. Roberts con-
siders that the same rule will apply to
State affairs. If the people of New York
State do not vote for sixteen to twenty
million dollars required, he will be in favor
of turning over the canal to the United
States Government. Since this canal must
be conducted at an annual loss to the State
of several million dollars, it would seem to
be a wise measure to turn the canal over
to the general Government.

A man who has spent his life upon the
lime may say that the money to be ex-
pended on improving the ditch should be
spent in building elevators at Buffalo, it
would enable the canal to be independent
of railroads, and would help the canal in-
terests far more than any enlargement or
other improvement.

It looks as though the proposition to im-
prove the canal for the sum of nine mil-
lion dollars, when it was clear that it
would require twice that amount, was a
snap game on the part of politicians. It is
the surveyor's business to find out how
much money is needed for the improve-
ment, before an appeal is made to the public
for an appropriation. The scheme seems to
have been that after the people of this
State had voted nine million dollars, and
that sum was spent upon the canals, they
would spend nine or ten million dollars
more rather than lose the first nine mil-
lion dollars invested.

Marriage of Chas. W. Garfield.

There are few pomologists better known
throughout the country than Chas. W. Gar-
field, of Grand Rapids, Mich. His many
friends will be glad to hear of his mar-
riage, which occurred recently. They will
also be glad to learn that Mr. Garfield has
been successful as a business man, and is
at the head of large business enterprises in
the Michigan city where he dwells.

Garden and Forest.

The weekly publication known as Gar-
den and Forest, formerly published in New
York city, weekly, at \$4.00 per year, has
been discontinued owing to lack of patron-
age. Since this was one of the most am-
bitious publications of the kind ever at-
tempted in this country, its history is
worthy of notice.

Mr. Sergeant, the Editor-in-Chief, is the
recognized authority on forestry, botany
and kindred subjects, a gentleman well
known for his scholarship and ability. Mr.
Styles, the Managing Editor, was well and
favorably known to me many years before
he assumed the management of Garden and
Forest. I knew him when he was
Editor of the Agricultural Department of
the Philadelphia Press. I edited his de-
partment during one of his vacations.
When he told me of the plan of starting
Garden and Forest, I said, "Yes, \$4.00
per year. I stated to him that much
experience as I had seemed to me that
the enterprise would be a failure. He was,
however, enthusiastic, and felt confident
that the enterprise would be successful.

Why has Garden and Forest failed to
secure subscribers sufficient to make it a
profitable enterprise? It was ably edited
and managed, but when the practical
horticulturist looked over its pages he found
but little there which taught how to make
his business profitable. In other words,
Garden and Forest did not seem to be
practical. People who are engaged in
growing fruits and flowers, trees or shrubs
in this country, are bread-winners. They
are in the business with the hope of mak-
ing an honest living; these men are search-
ing for practical hints and suggestions as
to how they can better succeed in earning a
living. Garden and Forest did not do much
if any, space teaching along these
lines.

During a conversation with Editor
Styles I once suggested to him that he
get up a fine illustration of the Anjou pear
and mention its merits, stating that I did
not think that noble variety was receiving
the attention it deserved. Mr. Styles
scorned the idea of devoting any space in
his publication to anything so common as
the Anjou pear. His remarks indicated
that we have since discovered, that he
would much prefer to devote several
pages to illustrating and describing a tree,
or flower, or fruit that but few people
ever hear of again. I asked myself what
interest can the average horticulturist or
pomologist have in a paper devoted to such
lines as this. There are, perhaps, fifty
one hundred men in this country who
would be pleased to hear of such rare trees
or vines. These men are botanists, they
are men in charge of public parks, or
the grounds of millionaires, who desire to
bribe in their collection rare items not
possessed by common people.

Possibly in Europe there might be a
place for such a journal as Garden and
Forest; possibly in time there may be
enough of certain class in this country
to make such a journal profitable, but that
time has not yet arrived. The publication
of this country has thus far in most cases
been a failure. The successes along this
line have been rare. Numerous publications
have been launched, and sailed along
with apparent success for a few years, but
died out. No one but who has actual
experience knows of the great expense con-
nected with the publication of a journal,
how difficult it is to secure subscribers and
hold them in large numbers.

A subscriber to Green's Fruit Grower
writes about the wonderful crops of Mis-
souri, stating that this State marketed in
1896 one million head of cattle, three mil-
lion head of hogs, 100,000 horses and
mules, 119,000 sheep, 4,000 cars of live
stock, 46,000 pounds of poultry, 8,000,000
bushels of wheat, 10,000,000 bushels of
corn, 317 cars of mixed grain; 2,000,000
bushels of hay, 366,000 bushels of grass seed,
125,000 pounds of castor beans, 120 cars of
broom corn, 1,270 bushels of popcorn,
33,000 bales of cotton, 14,000,000 pounds of
cotton, 4,000,000 pounds of tobacco;
3,290,000 bushels of apples; 22,000 bushels
of cherries, 124,000 cases of straw
berries, 107,000 crates of other small fruits,
19,000,000 pounds fruits and vegetables,
1,000,000 pounds of dried fruits, besides
numerous other large products too numer-
ous to mention.

Twelve Bismarck, a large and superior
strawberry, will be mailed free to each
subscriber to Green's Fruit Grower who sends us
50c. and claims this premium when
subscribing.

Fairchild. The result of these experiments
led Mr. Udell to practice spraying each
year thereafter.

In addition to the Baldwin he grows
Greening, Pound Sweet, Twenty Ounce
and Nonpareil. He will have a somewhat
reduced crop this year, which will yield
him a profit owing to the high price at
which apples are selling. He employs thirty
or forty men during the apple harvest,
picking the apples in boxes and dropp-
ing them into barrels, so they are
easier to be packed as if they were eggs.
He allows the apples to lie in piles a few
weeks when they are sorted and packed in
barrels for market. His objection to bar-
reling at once after being picked is that if
the apples are bruised they do not show
the bruise until a week or two after the
harvest. The best success that the writer
has had is in barreling immediately after
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Diseases Which Cause Death.

It has been discovered by the Missouri
Experiment Station that peach buds may
be protected in winter by spraying them
with whitewash; the idea is that white does
not absorb rays of the sun so readily as the
dark color of the buds. Peach buds on a
warm sunny day in winter will open
somewhat although the ground is frozen.
If sprayed with whitewash in instances
the buds will be protected from
opening and be prevented from injury.

Green's Fruit Grower recommends that
the spray be applied from the south side
of the trees, so that the sides of the buds
most exposed to the sunshine will be
completely covered. We would also suggest
that it is not necessary to cover the entire
tree top since if all of the buds are pre-
served the tree will be overloaded with

peaches.

The lime for making the whitewash
should be thoroughly slaked and mixed to
the consistency of thin cream, and then
strained through a fine sieve. There must
be no lumps or sediment to clog up the
nozzle of the spray. Skim milk that has
not curdled is a valuable addition to
the whitewash. The whitewash must be care-
fully stirred, and of course must not be
applied on a very cold freezing day;
there are warm days in winter when the
orchard can be sprayed. I recommend our
readers to experiment along this line, and
report their success.

Theory vs. Practice.

A reader of Green's Fruit Grower, a man
of large experience, has proposed to write
a series of articles for publication on the
subject of the advisability of buying land
on which to colonize poor people living
in cities so that these destitute people can
help themselves by growing a variety of
fruit and vegetables. Instead of living as
paupers and thieves in overcrowded places
our kind friend also proposes to write on the
subject of unwise laws in our land, changing
them so as to enforce more severe
punishment for the violation of law, and
so that the honest yeoman of the
country can be protected from the
laws.

While I thank our friend for his kind
proposal, I have decided to encourage him
for the reason that I do not think that
the land can be profitably bought. The far
simpler of course of course such as has been
mentioned, however, has proved to be a failure,
though the idea has received the attention of
the best and most intelligent agriculturists
in this country. The reason for this is that
the methods of production adopted by
the producer are not in accordance with
the theory of the man who has proposed
the plan. The theory is that the land
should be bought and the people should be
taught to grow the crops which are best
adapted to the soil and climate of the
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GROWER

1808.

with this issue, unless you offers, which are simply of interest and do good might be perplexing, we are exceedingly liberal and Note also our clubbing New York Weekly Tri- year, for 50 cents. Also Green's 4 Books on Fruit Fruit Grower and Cyclo- culty Advocate and Fruit

Fruit Grower you must in if you fail to claim this or you to make your claim ,000 subscribers to adjust

No. 5. SLELY strawberry plants (new) free to each subscriber of Grower who will send 50c and claim this premium when introduced by Ellwanger & East at \$20 per 12. We have four arms and can place the exceedingly vigorous and producing heavy crops of large berries, of good form; season is the firmest berry I know well. We offer McKinley and, and guarantee extra strong

No. 6. ORD, new and large strawberries, free to each subscriber to Grower who sends us 50c for claims this premium when ordered at our Rochester, N. Y., last season, and prove to be of size, firm, bright, shiny fruit enough to suit a plant as is home and vine fully equal to Rubich in size & productive. It ripens its crop and is several days earlier, than the highest price. Seaford large and handsome, and of such a comission man has guaranteed them at 25c per quart. It is a fine, large, photogenic, and to the center, and very solid, fine stock of plants of our own these plants are strong in leaf and will delight all who receive a new berry, in the sense and dissemination, it has been fully and extensively tried for ears by careful and discriminating in one of the most critical sections of our country. It is a unique, and especially, a product abundance that was singular.

The years that have gone by led first judgment, and we offer the public with confidence in its value as a market strawberry.

No. 7. This machine for stamping in plain rubber type, your name and address will be mailed YOU with Green's Fruit Grower one year for 50c.

No. 8. GREEN'S SIX BOOKS, devoted first to Apple Culture; second, Pear Culture; third, Plum and Cherry Culture; fourth, Raspberry Culture; fifth, Strawberry and Persimmon Culture under one leatherette cover; price, 50c, or mailed free as a premium with Green's Fruit Grower, one year, 50c.

No. 9. FOUR BOOKS, devoted first to Apple Culture; second, Pear Culture; third, How to Propagate and Vines; fourth, General Actor; all under one paper cover, price by mail, post-paid, 25c, or premium with Green's Fruit Grower, one year, 50c.

IMPORTANT—All plants will be sent unless you especially direct, and only ONE premium with each as numbered above. OT make any change in varieties named.

SCIENTIFIC MICROSCOPE AGENTS 500 TIMES. ent Which Every Farmer Should Use.

NOT A TOY.

This microscope is specially imported from France and readily sells for \$100. It regards power and convenience handling, good for all kinds of work. It has been introduced for popular use in the case manufactured from highly polished brass. It is made of separate lenses—one at the end and one at the other. The lens is a convex magnifier, adapted for examining insects of various kinds, the surface of the skin, and small articles. The other lens is excellent and will clearly delineate every small object. It is made to examine the naked eye, such as the animalculæ, insects, drops of water, feathers and the minutest insects. Thousands of valuable insects can be seen in a single drop of stagnant water, tea, coffee, sugar, spices, milk, and similar articles. The work worn, every family, school and should own a microscope to which subscriber to Green's Fruit Grower sends 50 cents for 1808 and who sends 50 cents when subscribing.

Mail, Postage Paid by Us. **GREEN'S FRUIT GROWER**, Rochester, N. Y.



WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

"The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

Dat Ole Fashion Gal.

Written for Green's Fruit Grower.
O gib me back dat ole fashion gal,
Dat gal ub long ago,
Who worked upon de farm at times,
An' woud in de ebannah set.
Who'd help at times to milk de cows
And cheeck de chickens feed.
An' help to strid to plow de hogs
You're de kind of a gal I know.
Who went to 'dem ole spinnin' schools,
An' spelt de whole school down;
Who didn't want to keep in style
But wore dat home-made gown.
Who didn't wear her corset tight
An' didn't plint her hair,
And who when she sang,
But sang so lo' and sweet.
Who could cook a meal of vittuchs
And knew how to bake beans;
O dat's de kind ub a gal to git.
When d'ey are in the tehnets.
Who would carry a jug of water
To de harvets, makin' eat day
An' work, singin' and banhettin'
When she raked up de hay.
O gib me dat ole courstie's gal,
Who behind a counter sit,
Test gib me one who kin work
An' dat's de kind to git.

—O. O. Smith.

ONLY A WOMAN'S THOUGHTS

Hopeful.

Written for Green's Fruit Grower by our regular correspondent, Sister Gracious.

February, in its twenty-eight days, is the hopeful month. The blessed sun is with us longer both morning and afternoon and even in the Northern States there may be days with a hint of spring in the air. Now is the between time for the busy housekeeper. In a few weeks the will pile up, both in sewing and cleaning, so put as many jolly outings in this month as it will hold. Get up some neighborly tea-drinking, where you can sit and gossip and pat. Don't let the young folks have all their own way on the this. They will indulge in a little billing and cooing, but St. Valentine ought to have a broader significance. Perhaps you are not much of a letter writer, but it is months since you have sent a word to the folks in your old home. Write them or the friend of your youth, that would be glad to hear of the little happenings in your everyday life. Prepare an extra dabbit for the family and put on a fresh bonnet and collar, and smile if your husband says: "Hai! old woman! You are homier now than when I married you." Please, there is a sick neighbor, and you can make the old say: "I'm a happy one by the side of her on her hour. Then there are the young folks. Let them have a frolic in your parlor. If you have frail things better put them away to keep the parlor too nice for common use. And join in the fun. It is better for yourself, and the youngsters have better time, with a little restraint. If "mother" is there directing, the young people will not throw the hot candy they are pulling either at the walls or at one another's heads, as it happened at one candy pull. As the days lengthen our minds turn towards gardening and here are the floral catalogues. There is everything in planning, a battle to improving your backyard. However small the premises are if you cannot afford a fruit tree. Remember, currants are made for narrow quarters and you will decide there can be a row by the back fence and read up about their culture and send for a few plants at least.

LITTLE MONEY.

A young girl living in the suburbs of a large city, after her graduation from the high school, returned for two things: something to do, besides the regular routine of home life, and a little money that she could feel was her very own. There were girls and girls in every office and factory; these seemed no use in trying for a situation, besides her mother wanted her at home. A stray Fruit Grower fell into her hands, and she read an article on growing currants. There was a straggling row at the end of the half acre garden, but her father was too busy to attend to it. How was she to get money, but she could see what she could do. She asked her father if she might take care of the bushes, sell the fruit and have the money. He was but too glad to promise, so she looked up some old Fruit Growers and read all she could find on the subject. The first thing was to cut out the old straggling canes and loosen the earth and dig in some well-rotted manure. At work outdoors was new and delightful, and how she watched for the blossoming buds and afterwards the slow growing fruit. It was a proud day in June when they were pronounced ripe enough to pick and there was actually two bushels. Her mother bought one, and the next day she sold it, and told her she wished there was three times as much. She said: "There might be a glut of strawberries in the market, but never of currants, and she had better go into it more extensively next year." It was a happy morning when the young girl bought several articles for her dress she had long wanted, and she decided to be a fruit grower. The next fall more currant bushes

were added and cultivated the following spring and in June she picked a bushel and a half. Her mother made delicious spiced currants, and sold all the family did not eat, and after selling the second year's crop, the girl blossomed out in a new silk dress, from the money obtained from her currants. Next spring she expects to move out on an acre and a half lot, add strawberries and poultry, and says though she may have failures, she will succeed; other young girls, sighing for a little time and for some time to do, might strike off into raising small fruits. As yet the business is not crowded, as almost every other is, and health and a fair amount of wages may result.

SICK FANCIES.

Before a girl marries she ought to take a turn in a hospital class for trained nurses or better still, a course of lectures on how to care for sick people. She ought to know how to detect the signs of sickness, or whether a doctor is needed, and also about children's diseases, or proper food for infants. As it is, there isn't one girl in a hundred properly equipped in that respect. It is those recovering from some severe illness that need the most tender care and patience. The long strain of anxiety for the family when the sick one lays for days near death may be over and now that is past the nurses are apt to relax in their care when at their very best the patient may suffer the most. So a lady after a severe attack of grippe: "My sisters watched me with the utmost care when I was very sick, but had no idea of me jangled and disordered nerves, even after I was able to sit up every day. One morning they spread over me a bright red and white pieced bed quilt and it was torture. The thing whirled round and round and transferred itself to the ceiling where every little square seemed to grin at me, and I fairly screamed to have it removed." Another lady that could afford to hire a trained nurse told me that the horrors of a severe attack of grippe were lessened and getting well a positive delight, though her intelligent care. Even the bright cap and apron she wore was soothing. Make your fondant one day and make it up into candy the next. Never melt fondant by placing the saucepan immediately on the stove. Prevent the danger of scorching by standing the pan containing it in a basin of water. If the melted fondant is too thick add water most cautiously, a drop at a time. A half teaspoonful more than is necessary will ruin the candy. To keep candy place it in a cool dry place. To keep candy clean put between layers of waxed paper in the boxes. If the day is bright and clear the sugar loses its stickiness quickly, therefore select a fine day for candy-making.

Our Husbands.

Who weds because we are so dear
And then forgets, when we're here,
The anniversary every year,
The husband.

Who, sometimes makes us quall and quake
With tales about the bread and cake
His mother used to make and bake?
The husband.

Who calls the landlord with a frown
And then slips out and goes up town
While wifey talks that landlord down?
The husband.

Rules for Candy-Making.

Who, when he's donning evening clothes,
Would with an angel come to blows
And lets the whole house hear his woes?
The husband.

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And lets the whole house hear his woes?
The husband.

SICK FANCIES.

Who, when he's donning evening clothes,
Would with an angel come to blows
And lets the whole house hear his woes?
The husband.

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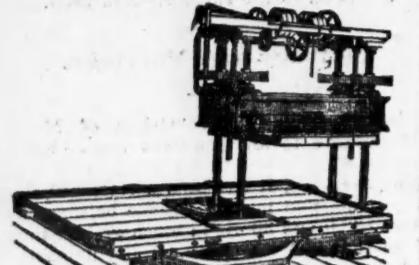
E. W. BENNETT, S. Schley.

I read in several papers about a steel basket that was made of one piece of cold-rolled sheet steel that would hold 35 bushels. I sent \$2.00 to the Steel Basket Company, Temple, Tex., and asked for a sample. It came all right, and the Company paid my postage. I was very surprised to find that some one did not think of making a steel basket before. They are but little heavier than a wooden basket, and are more durable. I am surprised that the best split baskets, so they are really much more expensive than the steel basket. The steel basket for \$5.00 (galvanized the best), and can make more money selling them than in any other way I know of. Am glad to be the advertiser.

JOHN.

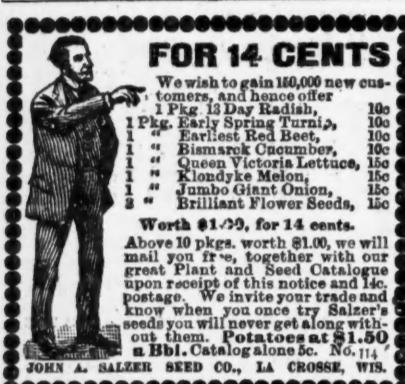
THE STEEL BASKET COMPANY are all right. They have a good product, and are very reliable. Mention our paper when you write.

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3 lb. Tulips

4 lb. Sweet Peas

5 lb. Marigolds

6 lb. Tulips

7 lb. Sweet Peas

8 lb. Marigolds

9 lb. Tulips

10 lb. Sweet Peas

11 lb. Marigolds

12 lb. Tulips

13 lb. Sweet Peas

14 lb. Marigolds

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